

# Marine Corps Equipment Readiness Information Tool (MERIT)

**Background:** In Nov 2000, the Materiel Command formed the Materiel Readiness Integrated Product Team (MRIPT), which brought together a cross-functional team that focused on materiel readiness policy, calculations, displays, reporting and procedures. Among other changes and improvements in Marine Corps materiel readiness, the MRIPT identified and began development of an information tool which would allow us to not only display readiness data but would also provide a “drill down analysis” capability that could be used throughout the Marine Corps Enterprise.

**Challenge:** HQMATCOM chartered the MRIPT to move the Marine Corps toward a single materiel readiness capability. This “one watch” for materiel readiness will allow us to move from reactive to proactive total life cycle systems management. Some of the challenges associated with achieving that “one watch” for materiel readiness have been: visibility and reporting of materiel readiness data and information, lack of standardization and lack of supply and maintenance integration.

**Solution:** The Marine Corps Equipment Readiness Information Tool (MERIT) is the first of its kind Equipment Readiness management tool developed by capitalizing on existing Marine Corps efforts! MERIT is a powerful, web-enabled tool which graphically depicts the current readiness posture and detailed supply and maintenance information for all Marine Corps readiness reportable TAMCNs. Versatile, scalable, and intuitive, MERIT taps into legacy data from Marine Corps Systems and also will be able to import from planned future Marine Corps logistics systems as well as non-Marine Corps automated information systems.

MERIT transforms data into valuable information that provides a dynamic adaptable view of Equipment Readiness by Commodity and Functional Area. An automatic graphics generator feature provides customized information of current and historical readiness and is ideal for developing readiness related briefing charts at all levels within the Marine Corps. Using a drilldown approach, MERIT takes you from the top level of Marine Corps Readiness posture to the supply status of specific parts. By drastically reducing the readiness information data gathering effort, MERIT enables users to solve and prevent readiness problems.

MERIT provides a total view of the Marine Corps Readiness picture. It’s scope, versatility, and user-friendly operation makes MERIT a “need to have” for everyone associated with ensuring the readiness of Marine Corp equipment. MERIT gives Force Commanders visibility of their Readiness trends, problems and associated causes. It also provides detailed information required by maintainers, Logistics Management Specialist (LMS’s), Program Managers (PM’s), and analysts.

MERIT is an enterprise level initiative that achieved Phase I, Initial Operating Capability on 20 December 2002, with Full Operational Capability planned for 28 Mar 2003. MERIT is part of the Global Command Support System portfolio.

**Future:** MERIT is the tool that will move the Marine Corps toward a single materiel readiness capability. Through our Rapid Prototype Development efforts, MERIT will provide the Marine Corps with Total Life Cycle Systems Management enhancement capabilities. This enterprise level function should continue to be performed by the Albany Command in the future.